

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria/Rumania	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Ruse-Giurgiu Bridge	DATE DISTR.	31 October 1955
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. The Ruse-Giurgiu Bridge is 2400 meters long, spanning the Danube River, which is 1600 meters wide at this point, and swamps on either side. The highest part of the bridge is the center, which is 700 meters high. A 75-meter section in the center of the bridge can draw up to allow for the passage of ships.
2. Use of the bridge has greatly facilitated the movement of freight, and has reduced freight costs by approximately five percent. Prior to the construction of the bridge, freight had to cross the frontier at Kardam (N4323, E2618)¹, a 380 kilometer detour which delayed delivery two or three days and increased costs 36 leva per ton. This rerouting was during foggy and icy conditions. Congestion caused by freight trains at Ruse, Giurgiu and neighboring stations has ceased.
3. There are twelve 85mm. guns and eight 37mm. guns on a hill site 1.5 kilometers southeast of the Bulgarian terminus of the Ruse-Giurgiu bridge. Two platoons of the Frontier Troops, numbering approximately 70 men, guard the bridge. On each side of the Danube River there are four searchlights.

Comment:

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1. It hardly seems possible that the freight should have to detour through Kardam since Kardam is approximately 60 kilometers south of the frontier.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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